



Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District

David G. Ovard, CEO, General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer
Richard P. Bay, Assistant General Manager, Chief Engineer
Barton A. Forsyth, Assistant General Manager, Water Supply/Water Quality

*copy KUC file
cc Susan
Stampe*

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Steven L. Taggart

January 15, 2004

Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining
Lowell Braxton
P. O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

m/035/002

Subject: Discharge Permit to Jordan River

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Over a century of mining activities in the Bingham Canyon area have resulted in significant underground water contamination in southwestern Salt Lake Valley. That groundwater contamination "plume" continues to move and expand, threatening the quality of public and private drinking water wells in the Valley. Unchecked, this plume will flow into more than one hundred wells.

Clean groundwater is a precious natural resource that must be protected. Because of this, the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (District) has long been an active proponent of both a cleanup effort and a strategy to contain the plume. More recently, the District and Kennecott have formulated a plan to accomplish the cleanup and containment of the plume, as well as to produce drinking water. This plan will be of great value to the public.

During the public information and comment process conducted over the last several months, focused concerns have been expressed pertaining to a permit for discharge of reverse osmosis treatment by-product to the Jordan River. The District has concluded that opportunities may exist to modify the plan in a manner that will benefit the public even more. Therefore, the District has withdrawn the Jordan River discharge permit as it pursues those new opportunities to this large and complex problem. A copy of the permit withdrawal letter is enclosed for your information.

Thank you for your comments to the proposed plan.

Sincerely,

David G. Ovard

David G. Ovard
General Manager, CEO

Enclosure

c: Dianne Nielson
Don Ostler
Paula Doughty

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

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January 14, 2004

Don A. Ostler
Director
Division of Water Quality
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Subject: Withdrawal of UPDES Discharge Permit to Jordan River (Permit
#UT0025551)

Dear Don:

As you are aware, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (District) has been issued a UPDES permit for discharge of reverse osmosis by-product to the Jordan River. This discharge permit is for the operation of a reverse osmosis water treatment plant related to the Southwest Jordan Valley Groundwater Remediation Project. Through the public hearing process, the District has been made aware of concerns with this discharge permit. The District has reviewed these concerns and has made the determination to withdraw this permit. You are hereby requested to terminate UPDES permit number UT0025551.

The District will evaluate other means of accomplishing the groundwater remediation project. Thank you and your staff for your efforts during the permitting process.

Sincerely,

David G. Ovard
CEO, General Manager

mga/dg